In the Claims

Please cancel, without prejudice, claim 29, add claims 32-48, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A printing label roll comprising:

a web of thermal printing paper having a front printing surface and an opposite back adhesive surface wound longitudinally along a running axis in a roll having a plurality of ~~labels~~ overlapping layers in which said back surface is laminated against said front surface of inner layers of said web;

said back surface including a plurality of noncontiguous adhesive patches spaced longitudinally apart in a column of adhesive isolated on one side only of the transverse middle of said web in a minor area of said back surface, with the remaining area of said back surface being devoid of adhesive and including adhesive-free spaces transversely bridging said web longitudinally between said adhesive patches to isolate said patches in sequential labels and permit cutting of said web in said adhesive-free spaces to separate said labels; and

said front surface including a release strip extending along said running axis behind said column of adhesive patches, and laminated to said patches in successive layers in said roll, with said patches being sized for bonding an individual label to a surface.

2. (currently amended) A roll according to claim 1 wherein said patches are aligned along one lateral edge of said web, and closer thereto than to an opposite lateral edge of said web, and said labels extend transversely across said web in cantilever from said adhesive column to permit hand grasping of said adhesive-free remaining area.

3. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said web is continuous along said running axis, and imperforate.

4. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said patches have straight edges aligned parallel with said running axis.

5. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said patches have straight edges extending transversely with said running axis.

6. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said patches are rectangular.

7. (original) A roll according to claim 6 wherein said patches are elongate along said running axis.

8. (original) A roll according to claim 7 wherein said web further includes corresponding index marks between adjacent patches to define corresponding labels, each label having a single adhesive patch.

9. (original) A roll according to claim 6 wherein said patches are elongate transverse to said running axis.

10. (original) A roll according to claim 9 wherein said web is devoid of index marks between said patches.

11. (previously presented) A roll according to claim 9 wherein each of said labels has a plurality of said adhesive patches.

12. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said patches have arcuate edges extending transversely with said running axis.

13. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said patches have convex leading edges, convex trailing edges, and straight side edges extending therebetween.

14. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said patches are oval, with major axes disposed parallel to said running axis.

15. (original) A roll according to claim 14 wherein said web further includes corresponding index marks between adjacent patches to define corresponding labels, each label having a single adhesive patch.

16. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said release strip covers said web front side in full.

17. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said release strip is narrow and conforms in width with said column of adhesive patches, leaving the remainder of said web front side

devoid thereof.

18. (original) A roll according to claim 2 wherein said release strip comprises silicone coating said web front surface.

19. (currently amended) A label roll for ~~use~~ direct thermal printing in sequence individual labels therefrom in a thermal printer having a feedpath extending longitudinally between inlet and outlet ends and terminating at said outlet end in a platen roller, thermal printing head, and cutting blade[[,]] transversely bridging said feedpath, said label roll comprising:

an imperforate web of thermal printing paper having a front surface and an opposite back surface wound longitudinally along a running axis in a roll, with said front surface facing outwardly for being printed by said printing head, and said back surface facing inwardly to engage said platen roller for dispensing said web from said roll ~~having a plurality of labels~~;

said back surface including a plurality of noncontiguous adhesive patches aligned in and spaced longitudinally apart along a single column of adhesive patches extending along said running axis of said web closer to one lateral edge of said web than to an opposite lateral edge of said web for reducing adhesive surface area exposure along said feedpath and over said platen roller, with adhesive-free spaces transversely bridging said web longitudinally between said adhesive patches to isolate said patches in sequential labels and permit transverse cutting of said web by said blade in said adhesive-free spaces to separate said labels; and

said front surface including a release strip extending along said running axis behind said column of adhesive patches, and laminated to said patches in successive layers in said roll, with said patches being sized for bonding an individual label to a surface.

20. (original) A roll according to claim 19 wherein said patches are oval, with major axes disposed parallel to said running axis.

21. (original) A roll according to claim 20 wherein said web further includes corresponding index marks between adjacent patches to define corresponding labels, each label having a single adhesive patch.

22. (original) A roll according to claim 21 wherein said release strip is narrow and conforms in width with said column of adhesive patches, leaving the remainder of said web front side devoid thereof.

23. (original) A roll according to claim 19 wherein said patches are rectangular.

24. (original) A roll according to claim 23 wherein said patches are elongate along said running axis.

25. (currently amended) A roll according to claim [[24]] 19 wherein said printer further includes an index sensor disposed along said feedpath and said web further includes corresponding index marks detectable by said sensor and disposed between adjacent patches to define corresponding labels, each label having a single adhesive patch and a majority adhesive-free portion cantilevered transversely therefrom.

26. (original) A roll according to claim 25 wherein said release strip covers said web front side in full.

27. (original) A roll according to claim 23 wherein said patches are elongate transverse to said running axis.

28. (previously presented) A roll according to claim 27 wherein each of said labels has a plurality of said adhesive patches.

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) For use in a printer having a feedpath terminating in a platen roller, thermal printing head, and cutting blade for dispensing a sequence of printed labels, [[A]] a label roll comprising:

an imperforate web of thermal printing paper wound longitudinally in a roll; ~~and~~

said web including a train of longitudinally separated identical adhesive patches on one surface facing inwardly to engage said platen roller and a different release strip on an opposite surface behind said train[[,]] ;

~~with~~ said patches being aligned longitudinally in a single narrow column along only one lateral edge of said web to define said sequence of corresponding labels each having a minor adhesive patch isolated inboard in a surrounding adhesive-free remainder of each label[[,]] ;

~~with~~ said adhesive-free remainder transversely bridging said web longitudinally between

said patches to permit adhesive-free cutting of said web by said blade to separate said labels; and

said labels extend transversely across said web in cantilever from said narrow column to permit hand grasping of said adhesive-free remainder as said labels are sequentially printed by said printing head, individually cut by said blade, and dispensed from said printer by said platen roller.

32. (new) A method of using said label roll according to claim 2 comprising:

mounting said roll in a printer at an inlet end of a feedpath extending longitudinally to an outlet end terminating in a platen roller, printing head, and cutting blade transversely bridging said feedpath, with said web being unwound from said roll along said feedpath to said platen roller at said outlet end;

printing indicia atop said web front surface in one of said labels; and

dispensing said printed label from said printer outlet end, with said adhesive patch being disposed laterally at one end of said label, and said adhesive-free remaining area being cantilevered transversely therefrom for being grasped by hand.

33. (new) A label roll according to claim 19 in combination with said thermal printer further comprising:

said roll being mounted in said printer at said inlet end, with said web being unwound from said roll along said feedpath with said front surface facing said printing head and said back surface engaging said platen roller; and

a printed label extends from said printer outlet end, with said printed label having printed indicia thereatop, said adhesive patch being disposed therebelow laterally at one end of said label, and said adhesive-free remaining area being cantilevered transversely therefrom for being grasped by hand.

34. (new) A printing label roll comprising:

a web of single-ply thermal printing paper having an exposed front surface and an opposite back surface wound in a roll;

said back surface including a plurality of discrete adhesive patches aligned and spaced apart longitudinally in a single column along a running axis of said web in a minor area of said back surface, with the remaining major area of said back surface being devoid of adhesive; and

said front surface including a release strip extending along said running axis behind said column of adhesive patches, and laminated to said patches in successive layers in said roll.

35. (new) A roll according to claim 34 wherein said patches are aligned along one lateral edge of said web, and closer thereto than to an opposite lateral edge of said web, and said labels extend transversely across said web in cantilever from said adhesive column to permit hand grasping of said adhesive-free major area.

36. (new) A label roll for printing in sequence individual labels therefrom in a printer including a feedpath extending longitudinally between inlet and outlet ends and terminating at said outlet end in a platen roller, printing head, and cutting blade transversely bridging said feedpath, said label roll comprising:

a web of label printing material having a front surface and an opposite back surface wound longitudinally along a running axis in a roll sized to mount inside said printer at said inlet end, with said front surface facing outwardly for being printed by said printing head, and said back surface facing inwardly to engage said platen roller for dispensing said web from said roll;

said back surface including a plurality of noncontiguous adhesive patches spaced longitudinally apart in a column of adhesive isolated on one side only of the transverse middle of said web in a minor area of said back surface for reducing adhesive surface area exposure along said feedpath and over said platen roller, with the remaining area of said back surface being devoid of adhesive and including adhesive-free spaces transversely bridging said web longitudinally between said adhesive patches to isolate said patches in sequential labels and permit cutting of said web by said blade in said adhesive-free spaces to separate said labels; and

said front surface including a release strip extending along said running axis behind said column of adhesive patches, and laminated to said patches in successive layers in said roll, with said patches being sized for bonding an individual label to a surface.

37. (new) A roll according to claim 36 wherein said patches are aligned longitudinally in a narrow column along one lateral edge of said web, and said labels extend transversely across said web in cantilever from said column to permit hand grasping of said adhesive-free remaining area as said labels are sequentially dispensed from said printer.

38. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said patches are rectangular with straight edges aligned parallel with said running axis, and are longer along said running axis than wide transverse thereto in each of said labels, with a majority of each label being cantilevered therefrom.

39. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said patches are rectangular with straight

edges extending transversely with said running axis, and are shorter along said running axis than wide transverse thereto in each of said labels, with a majority of each label being cantilevered therefrom.

40. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said patches are elongate along said running axis to reduce said minor surface area thereof and correspondingly increase said adhesive-free remaining area.

41. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said patches are elongate transverse to said running axis and shorter in height along said running axis than wide transverse thereto to increase the number of patches along said labels.

42. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein:
said printer further includes an index sensor disposed along said feedpath; and
said web further includes corresponding index marks between adjacent patches to define corresponding labels, each label having a single adhesive patch and a majority adhesive-free portion cantilevered transversely therefrom.

43. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said web is devoid of index marks between said patches and each label includes a plurality of small adhesive patches isolated along said one side thereof.

44. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said web comprises thermal printing paper for being thermally printed by said printing head.

45. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said patches have convex leading edges, convex trailing edges, and straight side edges extending therebetween for transitioning onto said platen roller with increasing width and leaving said roller with decreasing width.

46. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein said patches are oval, with major axes disposed parallel to said running axis for transitioning onto said platen roller with increasing width and leaving said roller with decreasing width.

47. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein:
said web comprises thermal printing paper; and

said release strip covers said web front side in full to protect underlying print formed in said thermal printing paper by said printing head.

48. (new) A roll according to claim 37 wherein;

said web comprises printing paper for use with said printing head; and

said release strip is narrow and conforms in width with said column of adhesive patches, leaving the remainder of said web front side devoid thereof for being printed by said printing head.